

## THE PANAMA CANAL.

## VIII. AMUSEMENTS.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

Special Correspondence of The Washington Herald.

Culebra, Canal Zone, July 8.—"The principal drawback we are now experiencing in the building of the canal is the lack of rational amusements for the people." In these words Col. Goethals, the chairman and chief engineer of the canal, summed up the situation with reference to the entertainment of the canal employees. He added that Congress had been asked to provide additional clubhouses and funds for this purpose, but that it had seen fit to ignore the demand.

It does not take one long to discover the truth of the statement of Col. Goethals for himself. At Cristobal, Col. Goethals, and Culebra they have Y. M. C. A. clubhouses. Wherever these are, they have become the dominant factor in the social side of isthmian life. They provide good, healthy entertainment for the people, yet to one American settler that has a clubhouse, there are three that have none. In the towns where there are no clubhouses about the only thing the men can do is to go to the nearest saloon and drink bad liquor. And this they usually do. In the four towns where the Y. M. C. A. clubhouses are located barroom receipts fell off 25 per cent within a short time after the clubhouses were opened. Before the clubhouses were built the saloons were the only general meeting place available. The isthmian Canal Commission hotels had no lobbies, the offices were closed after business hours, and men being gregarious creatures and wanting to meet and talk, went, perforce, to these drinking places. It made no difference that the beer was flat and cost 25 cents per bottle, or that the whisky was bad and cost 15 cents for a good-sized thimbleful of it. Neither did it make any difference that no chairs or tables were allowed in the places. Even at the cost of time to talk half the night they would meet to talk matters over.

When the Y. M. C. A. rooms were opened, practical men were placed at their head. One would not think of card playing and dancing at a Y. M. C. A. in the States, but both are the order of the day at the isthmian Y. M. C. A. association homes on the isthmus. Bowling alleys, billiard-rooms, gymnasiums, and other places for entertainment were established in the buildings. Bowling teams were organized, billiard and pool contests were started, gymnastic instruction was given, pleasant reading-rooms, with a complete supply of leading newspapers and periodicals, together with a large array of trade journals, were provided; soda fountains were established, and in general the places were made more attractive than any other spot in the town.

The result has been the practical desertion of the saloons. The bowling alleys are busy every evening, and some of the most spirited contests ever witnessed may be seen on these alleys. There are a number of teams in each Y. M. C. A. town, and these usually settle their own little contests and then tackle the champions from the other towns. There is something doing while the clubs are in single month there are more than 5,000 bowling games rolled at the Y. M. C. A. alleys. Some 3,000 games of billiards and pool are played per month. That the soda fountains are appreciated is shown by the fact that the monthly income from them is not far from \$1,500. The total membership in the Y. M. C. A. is nearly 1,500, or almost one-third of the foreign Americans on the isthmus. They have camera, chess, checker, minstrel, and music clubs.

The night schools at the Y. M. C. A. are pretty well patronized by the new arrivals on the isthmus, but there is a species of lazy bug in that climate which, after he has been there for a year, makes a man want to rest whenever he is off duty. Going to the school becomes an intolerable bore by then, and so you find very few men in attendance who have been on the isthmus more than a year. The study of Spanish is the one thing which night school pupils do not give up until they have mastered the subject. For, besides the satisfaction of being able to talk with native Panamanians and the Spaniards who are in the Zone, there are other reasons. An employee who can pass an examination in Spanish stands a pretty good show of getting a promotion in the service. Besides, the fellow who has got enough to carry through a course of study on the isthmus, with its enervating climate, is pretty sure to climb the ladder of success wherever he goes.

There is some enthusiasm on the isthmus over basketball. Empire holds the South American championship in this popular sport. Baseball is as much the national game on the isthmus as it is in the States, and some good playing is seen on the diamonds at Culebra, Empire, and Ancon. Culebra and Empire are the strongest baseball towns, and there is strong rivalry between them. When they play a championship series, there is as much enthusiasm as you will see at a championship contest between the White Sox and the Cubs or between the Athletics and the Giants. And as for money changing hands, there has been the game at Ancon beaten to a standstill.

During the last dry season there was a big game between the two teams, and some fellows got up every cent they had and bet on the game. Some of them could borrow. One fellow from Culebra borrowed from every friend he had, and when the game was over he was such a winner that he took a six months' vacation in the States without pay. The classic sporting event of the isthmus, however, is the semi-occasional game between the "beans" and the "never waxes." Everybody turns out to see that.

Patriotism runs high on the isthmus on the Fourth. The celebrations held here last week were of a high order, and for fireworks and fun there was nothing in the States that could outclass them. The day at Ancon was something to talk about. They had band concerts, foot races, sack races, potato races, catching the greased pig, and every other sort of sport that funmakers can conjure up for a Fourth of July. The Panama Railroad ran free trains the whole day long, and for once you could go from the Atlantic to the Pacific without money and without price. And almost everybody went. After it was all over men who had taken part in some of the greatest Fourth of July celebrations in the States would tell you, without hesitation, that they had had one of the times of their lives. The day wound up with a dance at the Tirol, where all of the youth and beauty of the isthmus gathered.

The Fourth of July fever even spread to the Jamaicans, the Barbadians, the Martiniquais, the Spaniards, the Italians, and the Panamanians. Cock fighting, bull fighting, and a hundred other Spanish sports were the popular diversions. Any one who has seen a Fourth of July on the isthmus of Panama knows that patriotism is an infectious sentiment, and each think of a different girl, so, while all the fifty-two nationalities on the isthmus joined in a carnival of noise

and fun, they each thought of a different home beyond the seas.

Dancing is one of the great pastimes of the Canal Zone. The influence of a tropical moon is something no one can understand who has never been south of Cancer. It calls men and women alike to the court of Terpsichore. Everybody dances. The thing starts with the little home affair, then comes the clubhouse dance. Finally the fortnightly dance at the Tirol. These Tirol functions are the culminating social events of the isthmus, and nothing short of a sickness can keep the socially inclined away from them. The Tirol hotel sits in the neighborhood of a half a million dollars, and makes you think of the bigger hotels at Atlantic City. It was designed as the social headquarters of the isthmus, and like most things down here it is admirably answering the purpose for which it was designed.

Some writers who have visited the isthmus have made much of the alleged social distinctions, which are said to be based on the salaries of the different members of the force. But they have sadly overdrawn the picture. As a matter of fact, there are fewer social distinctions here than anywhere else you may go. The right kind of man or woman is always in demand. If he or she has the right kind of social graces, he will add something to the pleasure of the occasion. They do not ask whether you are getting \$1,000 or \$5,000 a year. What they want to know is whether you have a clean reputation and can do something to liven up a party. In looking over the list of guests invited to a social function you will see names that are signed to the list of the Canal Zone residents for women. They claim that the women need social centers where they can gather for amusement and recreation as the men do, and where they can have a bit of interesting gossip over a social cup of tea. These tea rooms may eventually come from the women's clubs, which have already gone a long way toward giving a stability to the working force on the isthmus.

There is a club at every American settlement, and these are all members of the local Federation of Women's Clubs, which is the largest of the social organizations for women on the isthmus. The Tirol Hotel, Literature, and the live questions of canal life form the topics discussed at the club meetings. Like the sister clubwomen in the States, the isthmian clubwomen are busy with their social life. They are promoting all social lines that have been built solely on a basis of monetary worth, and are considering only such as have a mental and moral worth. As a result, they are instrumental in promoting happier social conditions, happier home life, and more general community amity.

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## To-morrow—The Panama Canal. IX—Paying Off.

## Cool Connection.

From the Hartford Courant.

The New Haven Union is enthusiastic over the nomination of Bryan and Kern. If any other journal in the State shares these sentiments we have failed to take notice of the fact. It is either reputation or suggestive silence. The old-line, the Bridgeport Farmer, goes so far as to prefer the Denver platform to that adopted at Chicago. But Bridgeport has more interest than the rest of us in the State in the character of yesterday has become a national figure of to-day. Senator McNeill is known all over the United States as the last man to get out of the way of the Kern procession. But, as the Farmer remarks in an editorial way, "Mr. McNeill's political future was not, however, dependent upon the Denver convention." We congratulate Mr. McNeill on that fact.

## Samuel Gompers.

From the Pittsburgh Post.

The experience of Samuel Gompers with the reasonable demands of labor which he sought vainly to have embodied in the Republican platform, and which later he presented to the Democracy, with results that he now declares are satisfactory, are in miniature those of the country which for twelve years has been making requests of the Republicans, only to be denied, deluded, or defied. And the Gompers situation of the difficulty will doubtless continue to be a source of interest to people who, having rightfully asked the dominating party for bread, have been stoned away from the domicile of the trusts and the privileged.

## Kern a Poor Man.

From the Charleston News and Courier.

Kern, the Democratic candidate for Vice President, is a poor man. His sister, Mrs. Sally Engle, two or three days after her distinguished brother's nomination, drove into Roanoke, Va., with a load of truck from her farm situated seven miles from that city. It is hoped that she got good prices for her "vegetables." All the truck growers in this part of the country will back Kern for Vice President, and if all the poor men in the country vote for him he is dead sure to beat Jim Sherman.

## He Wanted Kern.

From the Kansas Express.

Charley Murphy confirms the report that New York State proposed Judge Gaynor for Vice President and submitted the name to Bryan. "When no word was received from Lincoln," says Murphy, "the matter was permitted to drop." One would think that Gaynor was a man after Bryan's own heart, but apparently that boss had his mind set on Kern from the first.

## Belittling the Office.

From the Rochester Herald.

After the nomination for President on the Social Labor ticket was declined by a man who is serving sentence for murder, it was offered to a young man who is driving a grocer's delivery wagon in a New England city, but he said he hadn't time to devote to the office. We think it is about time to put a stop to the use of this high office as a thing for cranks to play with.

## Indiana Again.

From the Nashville American.

Again it may be said that a Presidential election is worth more than the wheat crop to Indiana. A State that is not irrevocably fixed in its political affections requires no end of courting and treating and gallantries, while one that is without doubt in its allegiance is considered as indifferently as a married lady.

## Jim Ham Lewis.

From the Augusta Herald.

James Ham Lewis said the other day at Denver: "Many men get themselves mentioned for the Vice Presidency in order to go home and run for the legislature."

## Than He Feared.

From the New York Press.

Thomas W. Lawson's support for the Presidency was probably more than Mr. Bryan had expected—or feared.

## UNPATRIOTIC JOKES.

Attitude to the Vice Presidency is Tasteless.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

The sport some of the jokesmiths habitually make of the Vice Presidency is both vulgar and unpatriotic. The attitude of some of the country's distinguished men take toward a nomination for the office is both tasteless and discreditable. The bumptious manner shown by some of the Presidents themselves toward Vice Presidents betrays both lack of judgment and gross discourtesy. The Vice Presidency is an office of luster and it should bring to the incumbent the confidence of the President and the respect of the nation. Five Vice Presidents have become Presidents. Theodore Roosevelt himself, first Vice President, became President by an assassin's shot. Vice President Fairbanks received more or less attention at the White House, but he is not accepted there as a factor in the government, though chosen by the Republican party in convention assembled for Vice President, and elected by the American people as the Presidential successor in the event of an emergency.

## IN CASE OF WAR.

What President Would Be Best in a Fight.

From the New York Times.

If it were true that we were going to have a war with Japan or any other foreign nation, the question of the Vice President would come during the next administration. War is not one of those coming events that cast their shadows years in advance. If there were to be a war, does any one suppose that the American people would hesitate in making their choice between Mr. Taft and Mr. Bryan as Commander-in-chief of the national forces? Neither of them has seen military service, although we believe Col. Bryan got as far as Florida during our Spanish war, but that makes no difference. The qualification is mental and temperamental. Wars may be averted by wise negotiation. Which would be the better negotiator, Mr. Taft, who has had a long and arduous experience in national affairs, who knows the people of the Orient, who has visited Japan, knows its statesmen and its people, is admired and respected by them, or Mr. Bryan, who is quite unknown in any field of negotiation save that of personal and party politics, and whose convention at Denver gave a resolution for the exclusion of Asiatic immigrants which has given offense at Tokyo?

We think the American people would have little difficulty in coming to the conclusion that if there is to be a war Mr. Taft would be a safer and more efficient person in the chief post of responsibility than Mr. Bryan.

## DARKY LOGIC.

Worth More in Jail Than When He Is Free.

From the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

A Tennessee Representative enjoys telling a story of a darky in his district who in a way is something of a philosopher. "Some one was saying to Mose one day: 'You're always in trouble, Mose. Why can't you try to do better?' You're a likely sort of darky, and you could get along very well if only you would behave yourself—keep a steady job, instead of drinking bad whiskey and getting yourself behind the bars half the time."

"Excuse me, boss," said Mose, with a grin, "but it looks to me like I makes more money this way. When I works hard I gets \$7 a month and my board. When I gets arrested the judge he says to me that it will be \$10 or thirty days. How kin I afford to work for \$7 a month when I'm worth \$3 more in the lockup?"

## No Man Safe.

From the Chicago Tribune.

Something has got to be done about the Vice Presidency. It has now become the most violent case of the office seeking the man ever known, and the case has become chronic. What is worse, the Vice Presidency not only has to seek the man, but it has to drag him out from under the bed, chase him across the roofs and down the fire-escape, beat him into submission, and have him conveyed in an ambulance under guard to assume the greatness thrust upon him. The fear of the Vice Presidency will soon be driving every one who ought to be in duty out of out of political life. No popular governor or influential Senator is safe.

## Senator Bourne.

From the Boston Globe.

However, it is barely possible that Senator Bourne will recover, even though Candidate Taft should fail in his letter of acceptance to promise that he will not try to name his successor. Senator Bourne says he anchors his faith to the intelligent patriotism of the American elector. He is a man who has been in the campaign, with all that each represents.

## SOCIAL QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

By THE ARBITER. Question—Can you tell me where the term "Esquire" originated and what it implies?

Answer—The word esquire comes from the latin, scutiger, a shield bearer, and meant originally one who carried the escu, or shield of a knight. The title is English, and according to The Herald's college only the following persons are legally entitled to use it: The sons of peers, baronets, and knights, the eldest sons of the younger sons of peers and their eldest sons in perpetuity, the knights of arms, the heads of arms, officers of the army and navy of the rank of captain and upward, sheriffs of counties for life, J. P.'s of counties while in commission, sergeants-at-law, queen's counsel, sergeants-at-arms, companions of the orders of knighthood, certain principal officers in the King's household, deputy lieutenants, commissioners of the court of bankruptcy, masters of the supreme court, those in whom the King, in any commission or warrant styles esquire, and any person who, in virtue of his high office, has precedence of esquires, and the graduates of universities not in holy orders. It is, in a word, a title of dignity just below that of knight.

It has been generally adopted in the United States where it is conceded to professional and literary men, especially lawyers who in the first half of the last century were invariably known as esquires or squires. The late Mr. Robert Shaw says, "I am Robert Shaw, sir, a poor esquire and one of the King's justices of the peace."

Question—You said in one of your previous letters that all social questions pertaining to an administration were decided by the Second Assistant Secretary of State. Why is this given especially to him? Why should these questions not be decided by the First Assistant?

The position of Second Assistant Secretary of State is practically a permanent one, held by the incumbent for life, or during good behavior. It is the only one among the higher offices that is not changed when there is a change in the administration, and the holder of it is expected to teach the new officials the "ropes," to make them familiar with the traditions of the office and its social and official etiquette. He is informed on all the points of international courtesy, he has the law of precedence at his tongue's end, he knows the social history of official life since the time of Washington, so he has come to be looked upon as the ultimate authority to which all social disputes must be referred. He combines a dozen offices in one, is often Acting Secretary of State, and at the same time marshal, chamberlain, gentleman of the bedchamber, and so on. He is called upon for every purpose under the sun, and often receives ambassadors in the morning and in the afternoon, arranges a dinner list for some poor, confused Senator's wife, or dictates the visiting list for the wife of a new Cabinet officer who is making her first appearance on the social stage. In a word, he is the man of all work for the administration, and the holder of it is well, for should he fall in any of the various lines he is expected to be master of he would soon lose his official head. The shortest letter of introduction he can give, the contrary, is changed so often that he rarely has time to become acquainted with social and official details, and is quite content to appeal to the Second Assistant in case of difficulty.

Question—Is the widow of an army officer permitted to use the title of her deceased husband? For instance, is it good taste for a widow to wear in the United States army to style herself Mrs. Blank?

Answer—No, the widow of an army officer is not permitted to use the title of her deceased husband, at least, it is not regarded as good form to do so, although there has been no official ruling in the matter. If she wishes, however, to establish her identity, she can introduce herself and be introduced by her friends as Mrs. X., the widow of Gen. X., which should serve every purpose and meet any emergency that might arise. In Europe, for instance, the family of military officers and state officials are accorded much greater consideration than the ordinary traveler, and those so connected should not hesitate to make it known.

## A Question of Men.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

If we assume, as we may, that the nation will, in the long run, determine its own policies and expects the President to execute them, which of these two contrasting types is the better fitted for such duty? This is now and will become increasingly the issue of the campaign. It is not really a question of Republican or Democrat. It is a question of Taft or Bryan, with all that each represents.

## For Play Uses.

From the New York Herald.

It is a good taste for a widow to wear in the United States army to style herself Mrs. Blank? He was a friend of delivering the national speech. He will simply train it a little and give us a new drama for the season of 1908-09.

## EAST IS NOT SURE.

Figures Showing that the Republicans Must Fight.

From the Florida Times-Union.

But the Republicans need not be too sure of the East. In the latest election the Democrats carried Rhode Island and elected their ticket in New York. All except the governor. They cut the Republican plurality in Maine from 36,807 in 1904 to 7,338 in 1906. Maine is no longer certainly Republican. New Hampshire, which gave the Republicans a plurality of 20,185 in 1904, gave them only 2,969 in 1906. Connecticut cut her Republican plurality in half. New Jersey cut hers from 89,398 in 1904 to 9,013 in 1906, and even hopelessly Pennsylvania cut her enormous plurality of 562,332 in 1904 to the modest figure of 48,435 in 1906—scarcely larger in comparison with the population of the State than a plurality of 4,000 would be in Florida.

The Republicans will have to fight everywhere, and unless they get the support of voters of diametrically opposite views they will be defeated.

## ANGRY JAPANESE.

They Do Not Like Planks in the Denver Platform.

From the Kansas City Star.

The Japs, with their hair-trigger nerves, are much incensed, it is said, at the Denver platform. The plank favoring the exclusion of Asiatic laborers from the United States has set the keen little Tankees of the Orient to talking and gestulating. They are acting as people usually do who are more scared than hurt. Let them restrain their excitement until they have some tangible cause for alarm. It was thoughtlessly unwise to put any racial cause of friction into the Denver convention or introduce it in the platform. But the Japs are clever enough to know—or ought to be—that subterfuges of this kind are common among politicians, and that they are not as serious as they may appear. Again, Mr. Bryan is not yet elected, and the Japs must understand perfectly well that they have nothing to fear from Mr. Taft, whose acquaintance they have made under the most reassuring circumstances.

## STUDYING DENVER PLATFORM.

Is Mr. Taft with a View to His Answer.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Mr. Taft is said to be studying the Denver platform, with a view to selecting the most conspicuous fragile planks for attack in his letter of acceptance. It is at least encouraging to think that he intends to make a selection and not to deal with the whole list of Mr. Bryan's "suggestions" seriatim. That would make a letter as long as the platform itself, and Mr. Taft's own platform is not distinguished for brevity. Again, Mr. Bryan is not yet elected, and the Japs must understand perfectly well that they have nothing to fear from Mr. Taft, whose acquaintance they have made under the most reassuring circumstances.

## Campaign Facts.

From the New York Post.

Some indiscreet cables gleaned from the newspapers countrywide.

The two parties stand for the same thing. It will be a campaign of personalities. The candidates will not count. It will be a campaign of principles. Mr. Bryan will be the next President of the United States. Mr. Taft will be the next President of the United States. Mr. Bryan was the choice of the party, but the Republican convention was steamrolled. Mr. Taft was the free choice of his party, but the Democratic convention was in the hands of a dictator. Mr. Bryan has no show. Mr. Taft cannot be elected.

## Recipes for Long Life.

From the Westminster Gazette.

Thomas Kelly, of Ballygawley, County Tyrone, who at 107 climbed a ladder and repaired his own roof, is the latest centenarian to give to the world his recipe for old age, which is made up of "plain food, early rising, hard work, a sparing use of alcohol, plenty of fresh mountain air."

A Mrs. Mary Bradley attributed her good health at 101 to her lifelong indulgence in a daily cold bath. Miss Eliza Works at 105 said of her long life: "I have led a temperate life and to my favorite diet of bread and milk. I never ate sweetmeats or drank tea or coffee."

## Having a Good Time.

From the Delaware.

A boy in the State School for Dependent Children wrote his father thus: "Dear Papa: We children are having a good time here now. Mr. Sager broke his leg and can't work. We went on a picnic and it rained and we all got wet. Many children here are sick with mumps. Mr. Higgins fell off the wagon and broke his ribs. We had a picnic. The man that is digging the deep well whipped up boys with a buggy wheel because we threw sand in his machine, and made black and blue marks on us. Ernest cut his finger badly. We are all very happy."

## The Olympic Games.

From the Brooklyn Standard-Union.

America starts out by winning the first two events at the Olympic games, defeating all the world at throwing the hammer and at one of the running races. Why should it not be so? There he good blood anywhere in the world, we have it, and the nervous power of calling upon all one's force at the critical moment is believed to be cultivated here to its highest extent.

## Monument to Cleveland.

From the Buffalo Express.

President Roosevelt has decided to name the great San Jacinto forest reserve in California the Cleveland National Forest. This is to commemorate the fact that the national forestry policy was begun in Mr. Cleveland's administration. Of all monuments to Mr. Cleveland, none can reflect more honor upon him than this.

## Democratic Platform.

From the Rochester Herald.

The platform committee let its enthusiasm run away with it. It is a platform, it has drawn a code of laws sufficient to secure a new nation and has had them enacted into laws—Buffalo Express.

## In the Other Camp.

From the Nashville Times.

Davenport, in his cartoons for the New York Mail, is belittling and ridiculing Bryan as he used to do McKinley when he was working for a Democratic paper in the Bryan campaign.

## The Price of Beef.

From the Toronto Star.

Owing to the high price of meat some good people can see where their porterhouse steaks soon will be cut with the dried-beef drawshaw.

## The Injunction.

From the Minneapolis Journal.

If the two parties had it to do over again they would enjoin the man who invented the injunction.

## CHANCES IN THE ARMY.

## WHAT MEN WHO ENLIST MAY HOPE FOR IN LINE OF PROMOTION.

It is my purpose in this article to try to correct the erroneous impression that appears to exist concerning the army as an occupation or profession, says a writer in the Boston Herald.

As the Coast Artillery Corps is the part of the army in which New England is naturally most interested and the branch of the army to which I belong, I shall confine my statements to the opportunities offered a young man who enlists for service at Fort Warren, Mass.

When a young-man of eighteen enlists as a recruit his pay is \$15 a month net. Within a few weeks after he joins he is turned for duty as a private and qualifies as a first-class gunner—Fort Warren, by the way, has the distinction of having qualified every artillery soldier as a first-class gunner. His pay is now \$18 a month net.

It develops that this young man can write a fair hand and has learned the keyboard of a typewriter and he is detailed on extra duty as a school teacher and assigned to duty as clerk in headquarters. His pay now is \$33 a month net.

Soldiers may deposit money with the paymaster, which will be returned with 4 per cent interest when they are discharged. I have known men who deposited \$10 or more every month.

Four cents a mile from place of enlistment to place of discharge is paid each honorably discharged soldier.

The army ration has recently been increased and improved by the addition of butter, milk, and other articles, including one pound of turkey per man on national holidays. The food of a soldier is now not only abundant and wholesome, but is well prepared by able army cooks, who are paid big wages.

A soldier who is injured or gets sick is taken to an excellent hospital and is treated by an able surgeon. He pay while in the hospital goes on just as before. His job knows no "rainy day." Should he be permanently disabled he will be discharged and given a pension.

Separate Quarters for Officers.

Most of the men live in barracks which are well lighted and heated, and equipped with all modern conveniences, often including a clubroom with library, pool table, and piano. The higher grades of noncommissioned officers are furnished separate quarters, which are spacious, modern homes.

When a soldier dies his widow is given an amount equal to six months' pay.

Contrary to the general belief, few men can come and go as much as soldiers. While it is true that they may have written permission to be absent over night from their company and post, yet such permission can be secured for the asking when not actually on duty. One-fourth of this garrison can get a pass from 1 p. m. until 7 a. m., and one-third from 7 a. m. until 7 p. m., and one-half from Saturday noon until Monday morning.

Any man desiring to join the army may go to any recruiting station or to an army post. If he goes to a recruiting station he will be examined and investigated, and if found worthy will be sent to a recruit depot for final examination and inspection. If found worthy, he will be accepted and sworn into the service. After receiving recruit instructions he will be assigned to an organization. If he enlists at an army post he will be assigned to duty at that post.

An applicant for enlistment must pass a rigid physical examination, and must present letters from people who have known him, preferably those for whom he has worked, stating that he is known by them to be sober, industrious, and honest. The army is not looking for men anxious to get a living without working for it.

The service offers to an applicant for enlistment this exceedingly fair proposition: Come to Fort Warren on government transportation, present satisfactory credentials, pass the physical examination, and you may receive rations and quarters for ten days. At the end of that time you decide that you will not like the life of a soldier, you are at liberty to return to Boston on free transportation.

Having outlined the best and worst of the "ranks" offer, let us take the case of the young man to whom the commission grade is open.

There are three ways to a commission—the Military Academy, the ranks, and civil appointment.

How Appointments Are Made.

An appointment to West Point is received from a member of Congress or the President. This appointment offers the young man of ability and ambition an opportunity to secure a college education at the expense of the government and a commission as second lieutenant from the date of graduation.

Appointments from civil life are only made when the graduating class at West Point and the class from the ranks have not filled the vacancies in the grade of second lieutenant.

The chance to secure either of the above appointments is limited. The chance to secure a commission through the ranks is limited only by the ability and energy of the applicant.

This private (clerk) makes good, and is promoted to the grade of corporal. His pay now is \$42 a month net.

After a few months' steady practice he demonstrates that he can handle the depression position finder and is rated as an observer, first class. His pay now is \$48 a month net.

By his marked attention to duty and his demonstrated ability he has won the esteem of his company and post commanders and he is promoted to the grade of sergeant. His pay now is \$54 a month net.

He has now reached the end of his first year. Having had only a grammar school education, he fears that he could never pass the examination for promotion to the grade of a commissioned officer, and he decides to try for master electrician, the highest noncommissioned grade. He therefore relinquishes his extra duty job as clerk and his rating as observer and is detailed to attend the electrician sergeant school at Fort Monroe, Va. During his school year his pay will be \$32 a month net.